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SHOGUN WARRIORS
YOU'RE DOOMED, COMBATRA! ONE SHOGUN ALONE CANNOT DEFEAT ROK-KORR!
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From an ancient sanctuary hidden in the mountains of Japan come Raydeen, Combatra and Danguard Ace— giant robots operated by three courageous humans, Richard Carson, Genji Odashu, and Ilongo Savage — ready to fight the forces of evil wherever they arise!

Stan Lee Presents: SHOGUN WARRIORS™

DOUG MOENCH WRITER | HERB TRIMPE ARTIST | DAN GREEN INKER | JIM NOVAK LETTERER | ANDY YANCHUS COLORIST | ALLEN MILGROM EDITOR | JIM SHOOTER ED.-IN-CHIEF

ELEMENTS OF DESTRUCTION

THE PROOF OF LORD MAURKON'S EVIL POWER: THE MONSTER ROK-KORR HAS JUST MULTIPLIED BY THREE.
EVIDENCE OF THE MIGHTY SHOGUN WARRIORS' VALOR: THEY STAND READY TO FACE THE AWESOME CHALLENGE OF THE ELEMENTALS.
AND SO BEGINS THE FINAL BAPTISM OF FIRE... AND EARTH... AND WATER.
LG209

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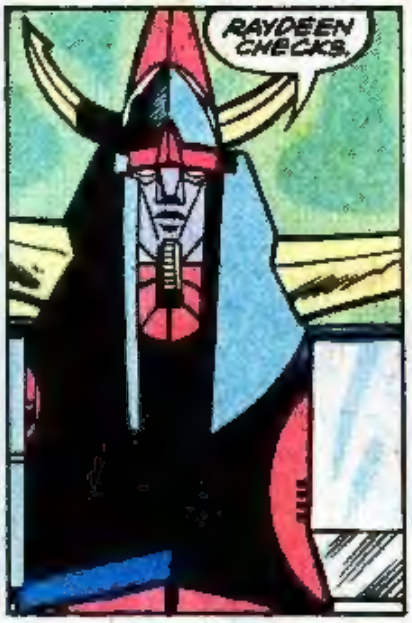
COMBATRA SPEAKS FIRST...
WE'VE MANAGED TO SAVE THE TRAIN-- BUT LET'S NOT FORGET THAT THE TRESTLE IS STILL WEAKENED.
NOW-- ARE WE READY TO MOVE INTO ACTION?

DANGARD ACE IS AS READY AS HE'LL EVER BE.


RAYDEEN CHECKS.

GOOD-- COMBATRA CHECKS, TOO.
ALL RIGHT, THEN-- LET'S CHOOSE OUR OPPONENTS. HOW ABOUT YOU, SAVAGE?

ILONGO SAVAGE: NORMALLY, AN OCEANOGRAPHER BASED IN MADAGASCAR.
I'D SAY DANGARD WILL PROVE MOST EFFECTIVE AGAINST THE WATER-CREATURE--
--BUT I MAY BE BIASED.
CARSON?

RICHARD CARSON: HOLLYWOOD STUNT DRIVER.
YEAH, AND I THINK RAYDEEN'S BEST MATCH IS THE FIRE-DUDE. OKAY WITH YOU, GENJI?

GENJI ODASHU: TEST PILOT FOR JAPAN AIRWAYS.
YES-- THAT LEAVES ME AND COMBATRA WITH THE EARTH-ELEMENTAL. SO LET'S--
--UH OH.

PHROKT
IT SEEMS THE ROK-KORR ELEMENTALS HAVE THEIR OWN IDEAS ABOUT CHOOSING OPPONENTS!
SO LET 'EM CHOOSE, GENLTI! IT'S EVERY MAN FOR HIMSELF AND WE'LL STILL BEAT THE LOUSY STUFFING OUTTA--
--LOOK OUT!!
SPLASH
THE WATER-GUY JUST TURNED HIMSELF INTO A FLASH FLOOD -- IT'LL WASH OUT THE TRESTLE'S FOUNDATIONS! CAN YOU GIVE US SOME HELP, SAVAGE?

OF COURSE I CAN, CARSON -- DIDN'T I SAY DANGARD WAS BEST EQUIPPED TO HANDLE WATER?
JUST LET ME HEAT UP THE WATER WITH MY EYE-LASERS--

WHAT THE--?!!
FOOL! YOU CANNOT DESTROY THE VERY ELEMENTS! LORD MAURKON HAS CLAIMED THIS DAY FOR EVIL!
AND WE ARE THE SERVANTS OF EVIL.

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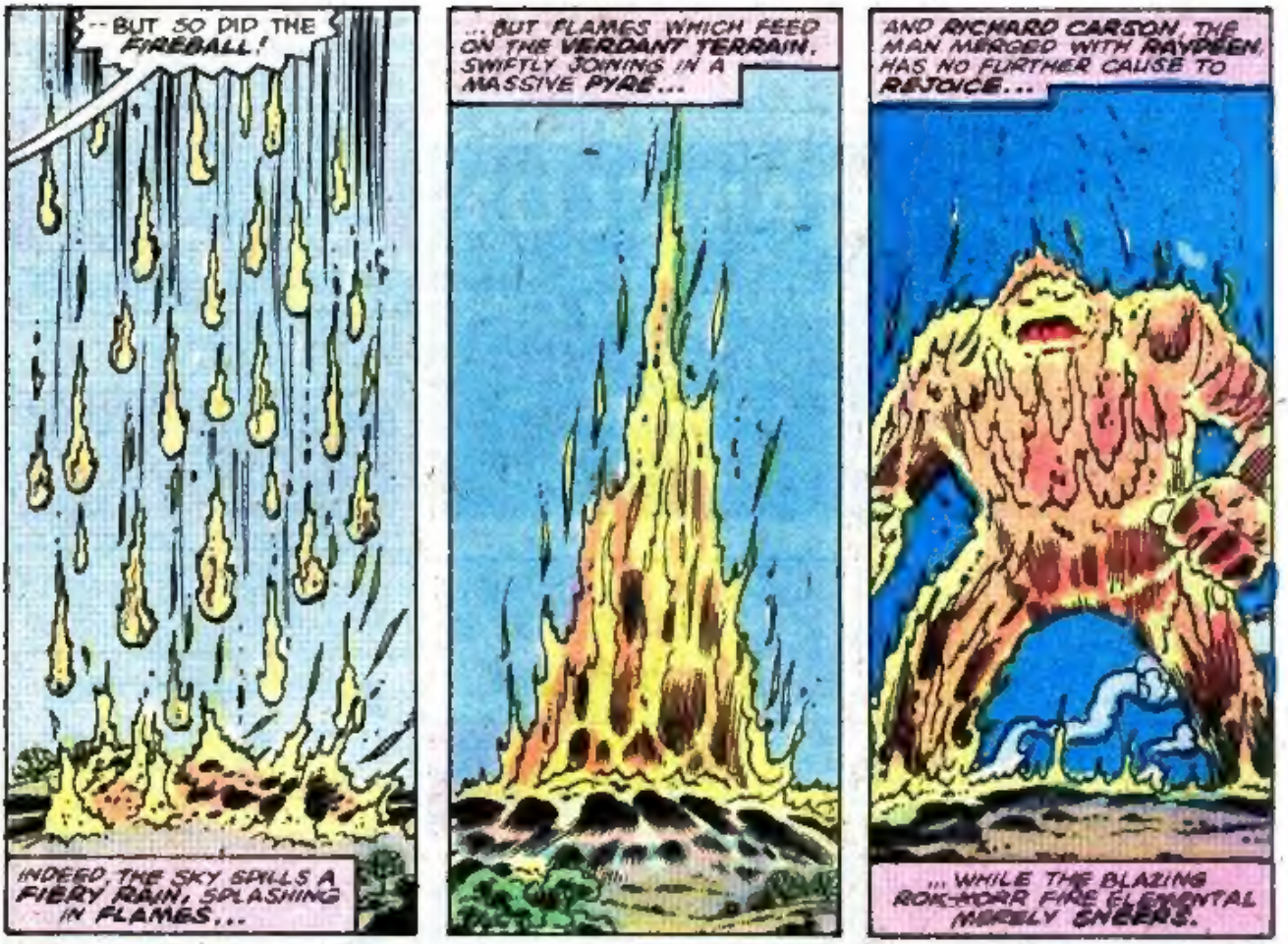
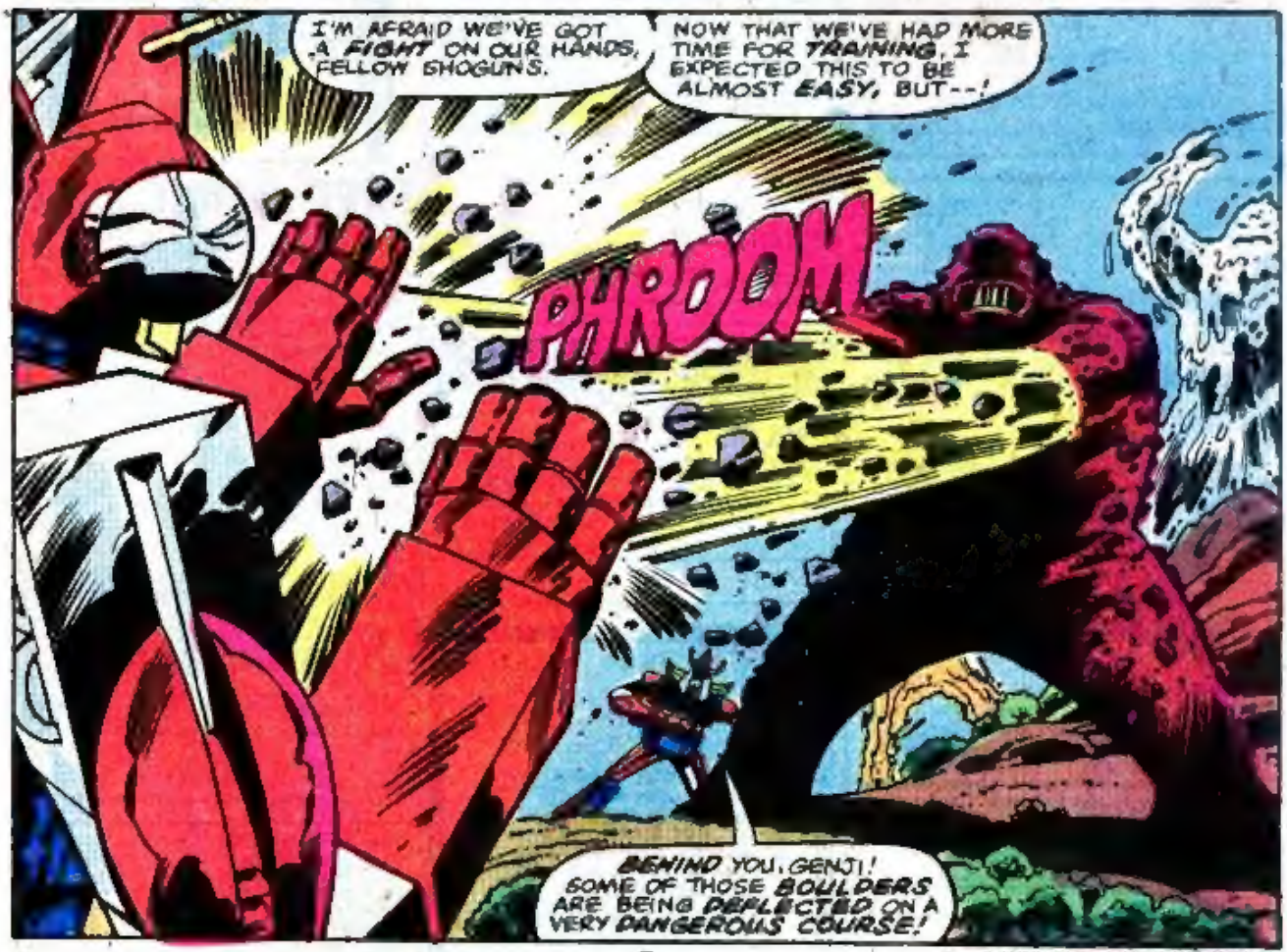
WELL SPOKEN WATER-BROTHER!
THE SERVANTS OF GOOD MUST DIE!
I'VE HEARD OF GREAT BALLS OF FIRE -- BUT A TALKING ONE IS JUST PLAIN OUTRAGEOUS!
RAYDEEN'S ARMOR IS HEAT-RESISTANT, BUT I'LL BET EVEN INSULATOR-CIRCUITS CAN BE BURNED OUT--
-- SO IT'S TIME TO CUT IN A BLAST OF BOOT-JETS --
WHOOSH
WHOOSH
-- AS WE LAUNCH A SCREAMER-HAWK!
SHK!
EEEE
POOM
THE MISSILE SHATTERED--


--BUT SO DID THE FIREBALL!
INDEED, THE SKY SPILLS A FIERY RAIN, SPLASHING IN FLAMES...
...BUT FLAMES WHICH FEED ON THE VERDANT TERRAIN, SWIFTLY JOINING IN A MASSIVE PYRE...
AND RICHARD CARSON, THE MAN MERGED WITH RAYPEEN, HAS NO FURTHER CAUSE TO REJOICE...
...WHILE THE BLAZING ROK-KORR FIRE ELEMENTAL MERELY ENGERS.


I'M AFRAID WE'VE GOT A FIGHT ON OUR HANDS, FELLOW SHOGUNS.
NOW THAT WE'VE HAD MORE TIME FOR TRAINING, I EXPECTED THIS TO BE ALMOST EASY, BUT--!
PHROOM
BEHIND YOU, GENJI! SOME OF THOSE BOULDERS ARE BEING DEFLECTED ON A VERY DANGEROUS COURSE!

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CARSON'S RIGHT! THEY'RE HITTING THE TRESTLE -- AND THE EXPLOSIVES CAR IS RIGHT BEHIND THE ENGINE!
SKRATCH
RAKT
THE TRAIN'S TEETERING -- READY TO FALL AT ANY MOMENT! GOT TO SWITCH ON COMBATRA'S LOUDSPEAKER!
LISTEN TO ME! EVACUATE THE TRAIN! DO YOU HEAR ME?! EVERYONE OUT OF THE TRAIN NOW!!
RUN AS FAST AND FAR AS YOU CAN!!
IT WORKED -- THEY'RE OBEYING -- RUNNING BACK INTO THE TUNNEL!
BUT THERE ARE TOO MANY OF THEM -- THEY'LL NEVER REACH A SAFE DISTANCE IN TIME --
-- BEFORE THE TRAIN PLUNGES DOWN TO THE --
KRRATCH
--OH, NO! THERE IT GOES--!!

ONLY ONE THING I CAN DO--!
GOT TO DIVE ON TOP OF THE EXPLOSIVES CAR--!
SMOTHER THE EXPLOSION WITH OUR--
--BODY.
KRO
POW
PA
WOK
UHN!!
GENJI ODASHU LIES VERY STILL, A TRAGIC TESTAMENT TO UNCOMMON BRAVERY... AND ONE WHICH MIRRORS THE PREDICAMENT OF THE GIGANTIC ROBOT SHE COMMANDED.
RESULT: THE ORIGINAL ROK-KORR, A MONSTROUS BEING OF CRUSHING EARTH AND ROCK--
--CLOSES IN ON HIS NOW-HELPLESS PREY.

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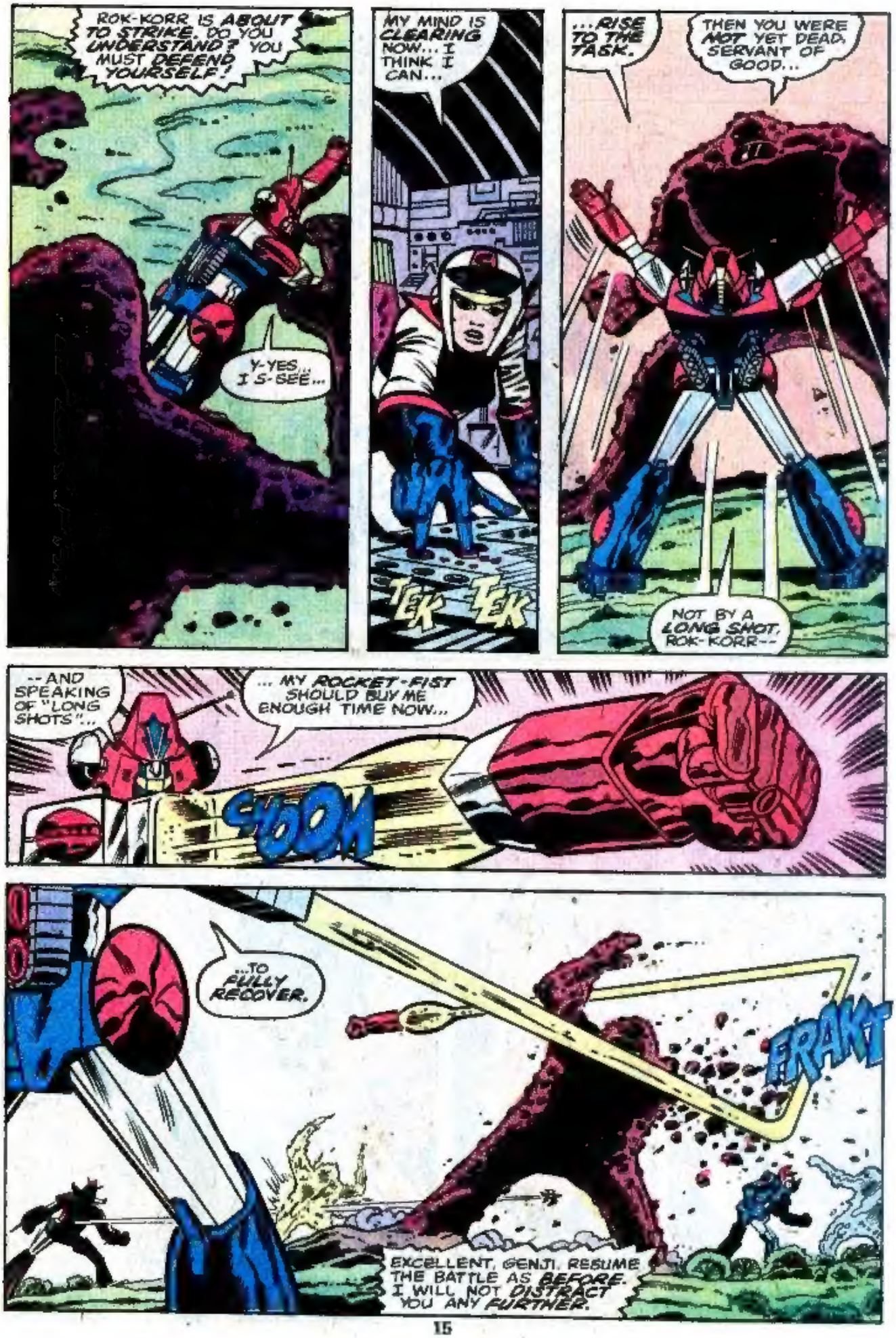
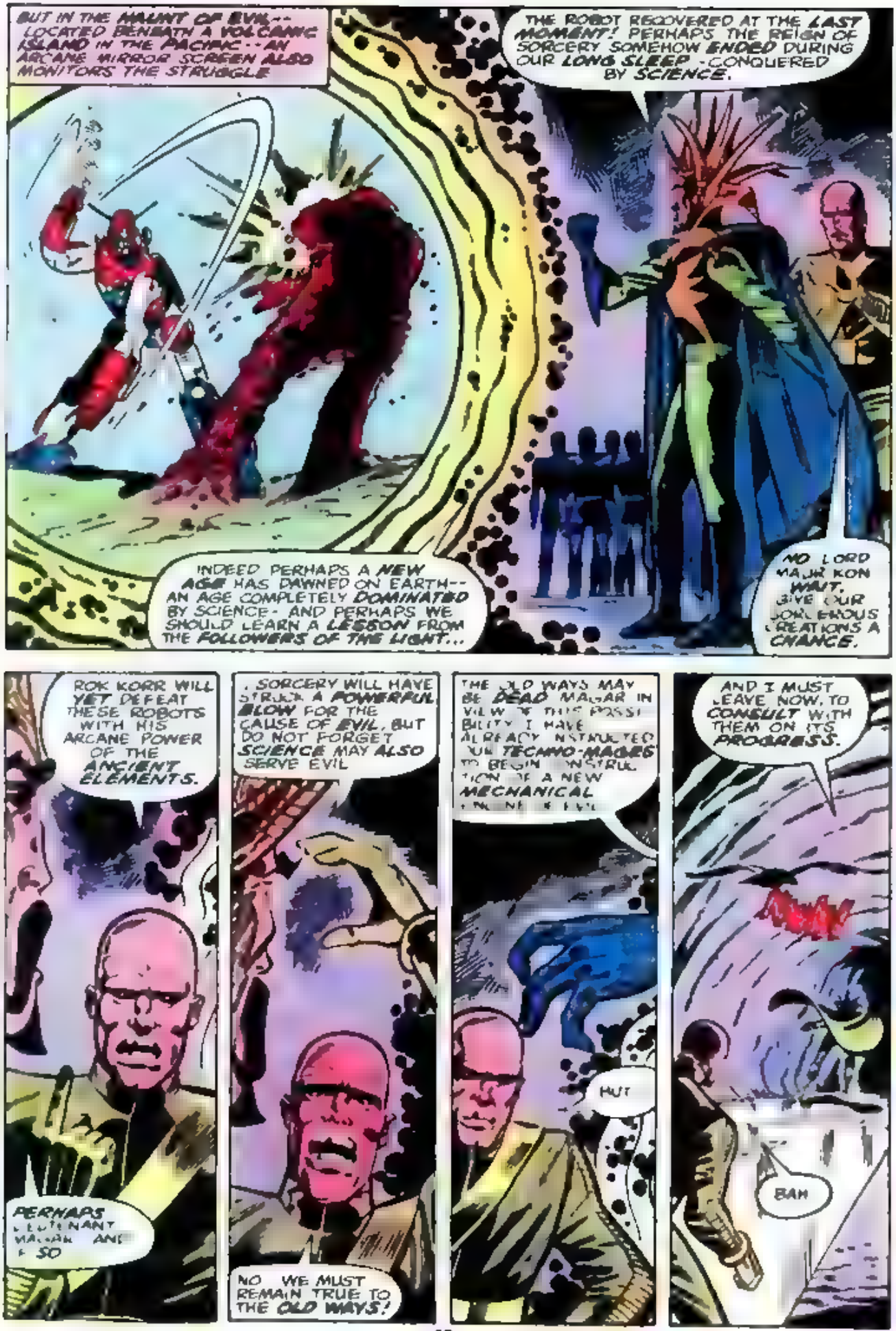
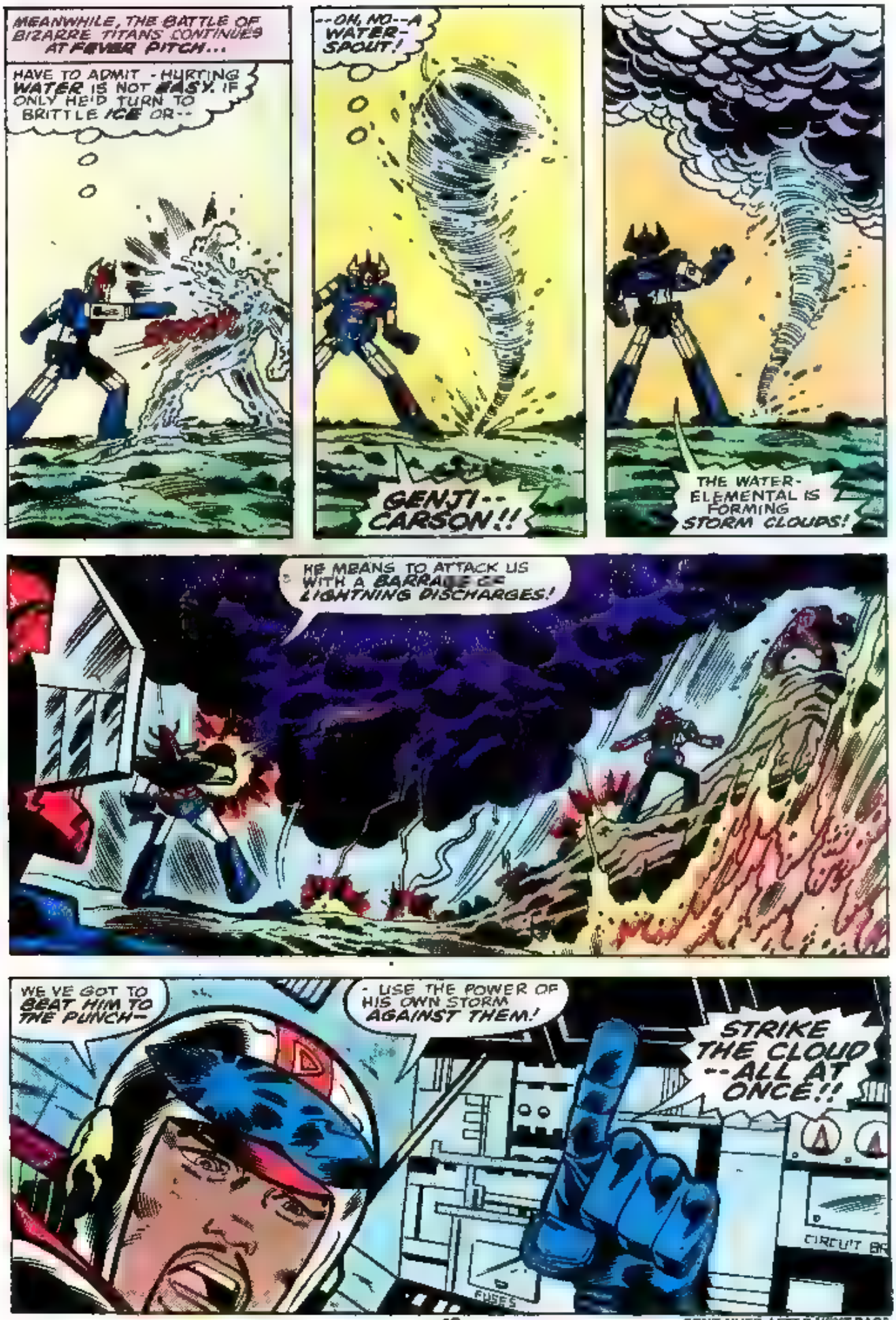
AND IN THE MAIN COMPUTER MONITORING CHAMBER OF SHOGUN SANCTUARY, SOME NINETY MILES AWAY, THE FOLLOWERS OF THE LIGHT WATCH WITH BATED BREATH...
A VALIANT EFFORT, TAMBURA--WE CHOSE OUR AGENTS WELL.
REMOTE READOUT SIX
SHE SAVED THE TRAIN'S PASSENGERS, BUT DID SHE SACRIFICE HERSELF TO DO SO?
WE'LL KNOW IN A MOMENT, CHARN. MAURKON'S MONSTER IS MOVING IN FOR THE KILL, AND IF GENJI DOES NOT REGAIN CONTROL OF COMBATRA QUICKLY...
IF ONLY WE COULD DO MORE THAN SIMPLY WATCH...
SHIFT TO AN INTERIOR VIEW OF THE HEAD'S COCKPIT.
WELL, IT COULD BE WORSE... AT LEAST SHE'S REGAINING CONSCIOUSNESS...
UM... SHALL I OPEN CHANNELS?
YES, PERHAPS THAT WOULD HELP.
INTERIOR MONITOR
GENJI--THIS IS DR. TAMBURA. CAN YOU HEAR ME?
Y-YES... BUT... MY HEAD...
I KNOW, GENJI, BUT--!
BUZZING...
LISTEN TO ME, GENJI--YOU ARE IN SUPREME JEOPARDY. YOU MUST MERGE WITH COMBATRA--YOU MUST REGAIN CONTROL.


ROK-KORR IS ABOUT TO STRIKE. DO YOU UNDERSTAND? YOU MUST DEFEND YOURSELF!
Y-YES... I S-SEE...
MY MIND IS CLEARING NOW... I THINK I CAN...
TEK TEK
...RISE TO THE TASK.
THEN YOU WERE NOT YET DEAD, SERVANT OF GOOD...
NOT BY A LONG SHOT, ROK-KORR--
--AND SPEAKING OF "LONG SHOTS"...
... MY ROCKET-FIST SHOULD BUY ME ENOUGH TIME NOW...
SHOOM
...TO FULLY RECOVER.
FRAK!
EXCELLENT, GENJI. RESUME THE BATTLE AS BEFORE. I WILL NOT DISTRACT YOU ANY FURTHER.


BUT IN THE HAUNT OF EVIL--LOCATED BENEATH A VOLCANIC ISLAND IN THE PACIFIC--AN ARCANE MIRROR SCREEN ALSO MONITORS THE STRUGGLE
THE ROBOT RECOVERED AT THE LAST MOMENT! PERHAPS THE REIGN OF SORCERY SOMEHOW ENDED DURING OUR LONG SLEEP--CONQUERED BY SCIENCE.
INDEED PERHAPS A NEW AGE HAS DAWNED ON EARTH--AN AGE COMPLETELY DOMINATED BY SCIENCE--AND PERHAPS WE SHOULD LEARN A LESSON FROM THE FOLLOWERS OF THE LIGHT...
NO LORD MAJAR KON WAIT. GIVE OUR JOYLESS CREATIONS A CHANCE.
ROK KORR WILL YET DEFEAT THESE ROBOTS WITH HIS ARCANE POWER OF THE ANCIENT ELEMENTS.
PERHAPS LIEUTENANT MAJAR AND I SO
SORCERY WILL HAVE STRUCK A POWERFUL BLOW FOR THE CAUSE OF EVIL, BUT DO NOT FORGET SCIENCE MAY ALSO SERVE EVIL
NO WE MUST REMAIN TRUE TO THE OLD WAYS!
THE OLD WAYS MAY BE DEAD MAJAR IN VIEW OF THIS POSSIBILITY I HAVE ALREADY INSTRUCTED OUR TECHNO-MAGES TO BEGIN CONSTRUCTION OF A NEW MECHANICAL
HUT
AND I MUST LEAVE NOW, TO CONSULT WITH THEM ON ITS PROGRESS.
BAM

MAUR KON IS A FOOL HIS DISLOYALTY TO THE ARCANE WAYS HAS ALREADY WEAKENED THE ROK KORR TRIUMVIRATE
EVEN NOW THEY BEGIN TO SUCCUMB TO THE ROBOTS..
VILE ROBOTS-- MERE CONSTRUCTS OF THIS . THIS STINKING "SCIENCE"!
AND NOW MAUR KON WANTS TO EMULATE THESE FOUL THINGS TO CONCEDE THE "SUPERIORITY" OF THE FOLLOWERS OF THE LIGHT AND TO COPY THEIR METHODS!
SO BE IT IT IS TIME TO DISAVOW MY OWN LOYALTY
TO DECLARE MAUR KON A TRAITOR AND AN ENEMY!
AND SO I WILL FOLLOW HIM TO SPY ON THIS SO CALLED "MECHANICAL ENGINE OF EVIL"!


MEANWHILE, THE BATTLE OF BIZARRE TITANS CONTINUES AT FEVER PITCH...
HAVE TO ADMIT - HURTING WATER IS NOT EASY. IF ONLY HE'D TURN TO BRITTLE ICE OR--
--OH, NO--A WATER-SPOUT!
GENJI-- CARSON!!
THE WATER-ELEMENTAL IS FORMING STORM CLOUDS!
HE MEANS TO ATTACK US WITH A BARRAGE OF LIGHTNING DISCHARGES!
WE'VE GOT TO BEAT HIM TO THE PUNCH--
- USE THE POWER OF HIS OWN STORM AGAINST THEM!
STRIKE THE CLOUD --ALL AT ONCE!!
CIRCUIT BR
FUSES

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE

YOU GOT IT, SAVAGE!
SHREE
THE COMBINED FIRE-POWER OF ALL THREE SHOGUNS IS LAUNCHED SKYWARD--
--WHERE THE CLOUD IS PUMMELED, BLISTERED AND CHARGED BY A SERIES OF DETONATIONS-- INFUSED WITH ARTIFICIAL THUNDER...
BOOM
BUH-
BOOM-
BOOM
AND...
A CLOUD-BURST! IT WORKED!!
THE FIRE AND WATER ELEMENTALS ARE DESTROYING EACH OTHER--
- WATER DOUSING THE FIRE--
AND FIRE BURNING THE WATER TO STEAM!
GOOD ENOUGH, SAVAGE, BUT THE ORIGINAL ROK-KORR IS STILL ALIVE-- ATOP THAT MOUNTAIN -- AND I THINK WE'RE IN FOR SOME PRIMO TROUBLE...

--BECAUSE HE JUST BECAME PART OF THAT MOUNTAIN-- ABSORBED ITS MASS--
--AND DECIDED TO HIT US AS AN AVALANCHE!!
LOCK INTO THE POWER TRIANGLE-- FAST--
--AND PULVERIZE THE WHOLE MOUNTAIN TO DUST!!
KUH-KROOM
IT IS DONE.

AND PAUSING AT AN AUXILIARY MIRROR-SCREEN IN THE HELLISH CATACOMBS, LT. MAGAR HAS SEEN IT ALL...
NO! IT CAN'T BE--!
THIS WILL TURN MAUR-KON AGAINST THE ARCANE RITES EVEN FURTHER!

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AND, IN SHOGUN SANCTUARY...
THEY DID IT!
YES-- FALSE MOVES, STUMBLES AND ALL! THEY MAY HAVE TAKEN MORE TIME THAN NECESSARY--
--BUT THEY PERFORMED SUPERBLY FOR NOVICES! DON'T YOU AGREE, DR. TAMBURA?
YES, BASQUE... THEY POSSESS ALL THE REQUIRED POTENTIAL AND MORE... BUT THEY STILL HAVE MUCH TO LEARN.
THE THREE HUMANS HAVE DEBARKED FROM THEIR COLOSSAL ALTER-EGOES...
AND, LOOKING AT THE DISSOLVED SHAPES OF EVIL, IT IS GENJI OSHU WHO COMMENTS WITH THE SENSITIVITY OF A POET...
STRANGE... THE EARTH-DUST SETTLED, SOAKED BY THE WATER AND ENRICHED BY A FINE LAYER OF ASH. THE ROK-KORR MONSTERS HAVE LITERALLY BECOME NATURE'S ELEMENTS OF LIFE.
AND SOMEDAY THIS FERTILE SITE WILL HOST A RICH FOREST-- A LIVING MONUMENT TO THE POWER OF GOOD OVER EVIL.
AMEN, GENJI.
AND PUT 'ER THERE, TEAM! WE'VE GOT ONE BLAST OF A FUTURE AHEAD OF US!
SO IT WOULD SEEM...

BUT THE FLUSH OF TRIUMPH ASIDE, ONE CHILLING FACT REMAINS: LORD MAUR-KON, THE VERY AVATAR OF EVIL, STILL LIVES...
REPORT YOUR PROGRESS, TECHNO-MAGES.
IT GOES WELL, LORD MAUR-KON.
IN COMPLIANCE WITH YOUR INSTRUCTIONS, WE HAVE SPECIFICALLY DESIGNED THE CONSTRUCT FOR MAXIMUM EFFECTIVENESS AGAINST THE GIANT ROBOTS DEPLOYED BY THE FOLLOWERS OF THE LIGHT.
CONSTRUCTION IS NEARLY COMPLETED.
THEN LET ME SEE IT.
CERTAINLY, LORD MAUR-KON. IF YOU WILL LOOK TOWARD THE PORTAL DOORS...
BUT AS THE MASSIVE DOORS SLIDE OPEN, THE EYES OF ONE OTHER ARE ALSO DRAWN TO THE FORBODING SHAPE WHICH LIES BEYOND...
...THE EYES OF THE SCHEMING LIEUTENANT MAGAR.
HE DOES NOT LIKE WHAT HE SEES.
THERE, LORD MAUR-KON -- THERE IS THE RESULT OF OUR SCIENTIFIC LABORS IN YOUR BEHALF...

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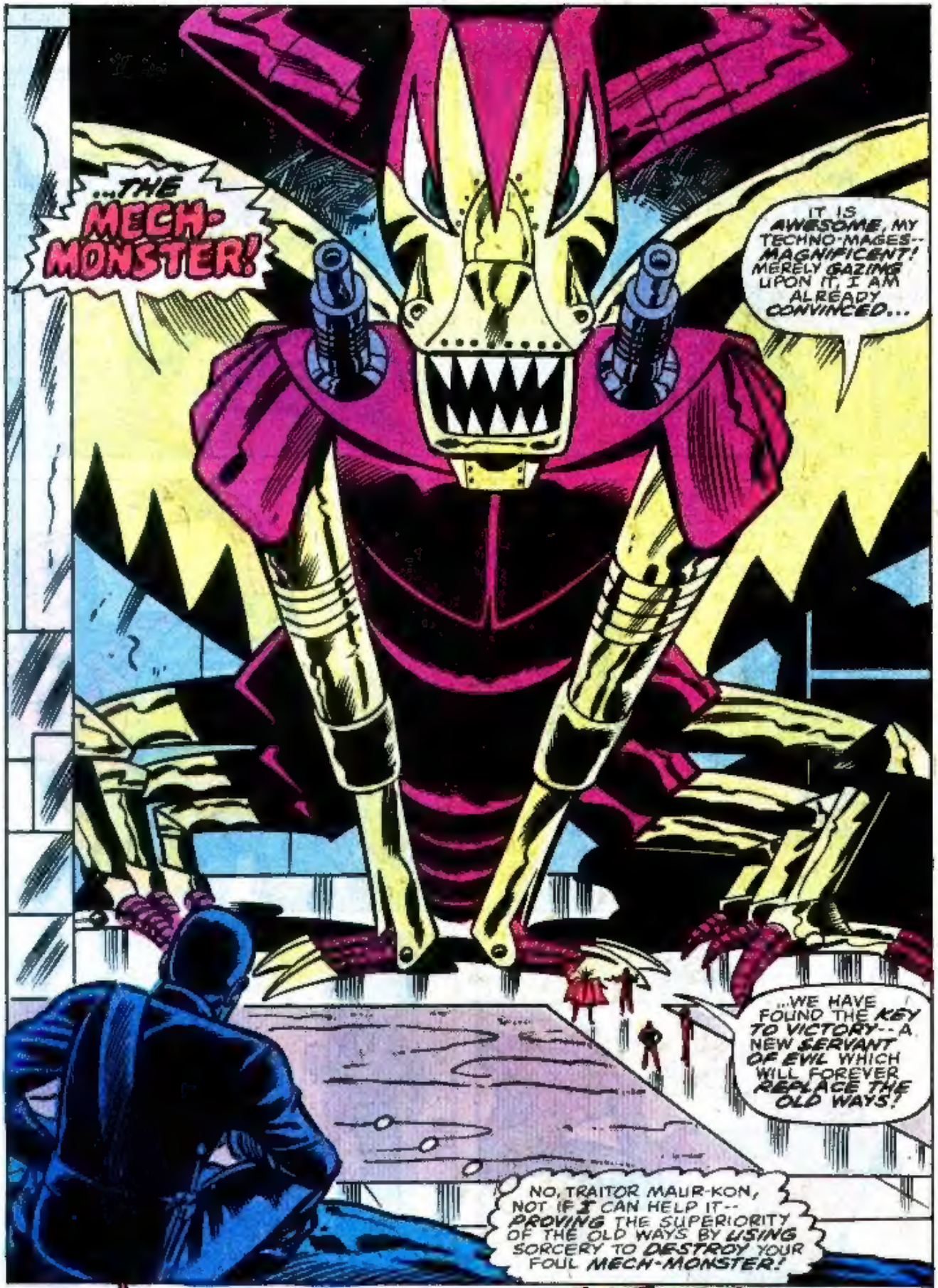
...THE MECH-MONSTER!
IT IS AWESOME, MY TECHNO-MAGES-- MAGNIFICENT! MERELY GAZING UPON IT, I AM ALREADY CONVINCED...
...WE HAVE FOUND THE KEY TO VICTORY--A NEW SERVANT OF EVIL WHICH WILL FOREVER REPLACE THE OLD WAYS!
NO, TRAITOR MAUR-KON, NOT IF I CAN HELP IT-- PROVING THE SUPERIORITY OF THE OLD WAYS BY USING SORCERY TO DESTROY YOUR FOUL MECH-MONSTER!

NEXT ISSUE:

THE FINAL PHASE OF SHOGUN TRAINING-- CHARACTER REVELATIONS --AND A SHOCKING PLOT TWIST INVOLVING THE GARGANTUAN--

METAL-MONSTER!